NATIONAL LIBRARY of MEDICINE

NEWS

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NLM to Cooperate with Center for Health Care Technology

Assessment of medical technology is the mission of the National Center for Health Care Technology (NCHCT), a new agency within the Department of Health and Human Services. The *NLM News* will carry from time to time information about the technologies being assessed and announce publications available from the Center without charge.

Located in Rockville, Maryland, the Center will be evaluating the scientific, economic, social, and ethical issues surrounding the utilization of new or existing technologies. Subjects are recommended from a number of sources, including the Congress and HHS's Health Care Financing Administration. Among the high priority topics are coronary artery bypass surgery, dental X-rays, barium enema, ultrasound for cardiac diagnosis, total knee replacement, renal dialysis, and kidney transplantation in end-stage renal disease.

An active program for extramural and intramural research and a series of technology conferences will provide the necessary information for assessments. The first conference sponsored by NCHCT was held in late summer on the alpha-fetoprotein test for prenatal detection of fetal neural tube defects. Co-sponsoring this meeting was the Food and Drug Administration.

The Center was established in 1978 as a result of Public Law 95-623. The legislation defines health care technology as "Any discrete and identifiable regimen or modality used to diagnose and treat illness, maintain patient well being, or facilitate the provision of health care services." The law stresses not only medical safety and efficacy but also analysis that must consider cost, benefits, risk, ethical considerations and social implications.

NCHCT emphasizes three basic principles in its assessment activities: 1) broad and open participation both within and outside of the Federal Government, 2) reliance on the expertise and research abilities of outside organizations and individuals, and 3) broad dissemination of recommendations and supporting evidence. It is in accomplishing this last objective that the law specifically directs the Center to work with the National Library of Medicine.

The Director of the NCHCT is **Seymour Perry**, M.D., who formerly directed the Office for Medical Applications of Research at NIH. *NLM News* readers have been receiving summaries of that Office's consensus development meetings for the last several years.

NLM welcomes the opportunity to work with the National Center for Health Care Technology and hopes that *News* readers will find information about the Center's future assessment activities to be useful.

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NATIONAL LIBRARY of MEDICINE
NEWS

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Board Recommends Study of Guidelines for Union Lists

On October 10, 1980, NLM's Board of Regents recommended that the Library's staff develop technical guidelines, if practicable, for use by health science librarians interested in compiling union lists of print and nonprint health materials. The purpose of the guidelines would be to promote standardization in the format of union lists and to reduce the time, effort, and expense usually associated with the *de novo* creation of independent systems. The Board will review the proposed guidelines at its January meeting.

Current Resource Project grant applications for union lists of serials, monographs, and audiovisuals will not be considered for funding until policy is established or guidelines are approved and appropriately incorporated in such proposals. This applies to proposals received by the November 1, 1980, deadline.

Staff Note

On October 20, **Peter D. Olch**, M.D., Deputy Chief, History of Medicine Division, presented the keynote address at the opening ceremonies of the annual Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons held in Atlanta. Dr. Olch delivered an address entitled "Some Comments on the Life of Emile Frederic Holman," former Professor of Surgery at Stanford University. The talk was based largely on material within the manuscripts collection of the Library and an oral history interview.

Publications Notes

Cumulated Index Medicus, 1980

The Superintendent of Documents (U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402) has announced an advance order price and stock number for the 1980 edition of *Cumulated Index Medicus.* The 14-volume CIM for 1980 is scheduled to appear in April 1981. The price, a $10 increase over the 1979 edition, is $170 (plus $42.50 if shipped to a foreign address). The order number is S/N 017-052-00213-9. *Cumulated Index Medicus* is an annual subject and author cumulation of the references to biomedical journal articles appearing in the monthly *Index Medicus.*

Permuted Medical Subject Headings

The 1981 *Permuted MeSH* may now be ordered from the National Technical Information Service (Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161). Price: $10 ($3.50 microfiche). Order Number PB81-103707. *Permuted Medical Subject Headings* is a computer-generated display of all terms in the alphabetic list of Medical Subject Headings for 1981, as well as all citation type, check tag, and geographic descriptors in the *Annotated Alphabetic MeSH, 1981* (*News*, September 1980). *Permuted MeSH* takes each significant word that appears in each MeSH term and then lists all the MeSH terms in which that word appears.

Kenneth T. Bird, **M.D. (left) of Massachusetts General Hospital recently visited the Library's new Lister Hill Center building. He is shown here with** Richard Grier, **LHNCBC Project Engineer in the Communications Engineering Branch's Video Development Laboratory. Dr. Bird has been involved in research on the clinical practice of telemedicine since 1968, starting with a pioneering link between Massachusetts General Hospital and Logan Airport.**

Population Information Online

POPLINE (POPulation information onLINE) is NLM's newest computerized bibliographic data base. It is available to U.S. centers from the NLM computer.

The POPLINE file contains bibliographic information relevant to population studies and family planning, including research in human fertility, contraception, family planning programs, population, and related health, law, and policy issues. The literature relates primarily to humans.

This online bibliographic data base was developed by the Population Information Program (PIP) of Johns Hopkins University and the Center for Population and Family Health Library/Information Program (CPFH) of Columbia University in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine. Both PIP and the CPFH Library/Information Program are supported by the United States Agency for International Development.

POPLINE was developed from another online bibliographic file, POPINFORM, which was maintained from 1973 through 1979 by PIP and CPFH. With the addition of POPLINE to the MEDLARS system, which is available internationally, the dissemination of population information will be greatly enhanced.

POPLINE is updated monthly with the addition of approximately 800 to 1,000 records. The file currently contains over 70,000 records, the majority of which were published from 1970 to the present, although there are selected citations dating back to 1886. Input consists of selected monographs, book chapters, technical reports, unpublished items, journal articles, and other documents received by PIP and CPFH. A number of secondary sources, including MEDLINE, are used to locate pertinent literature for input to the file. All documents cited in POPLINE are housed in the collections of one or more of the contributing organizations.

There is no restriction on the language of a document included in the data base; however, the majority of items are in English. Ninety percent of the records have online English abstracts that are either author abstracts, modified author abstracts, or are written by PIP/CPFH staffs. In addition, all citations included in POPLINE have been indexed using POPLINE keywords (terms assigned from the PIP/CPFH controlled vocabulary), and MeSH headings are also available for searching. All POPLINE keywords have been mapped to MeSH headings, with the exception of some chemical terms.

At this time, PIP and CPFH are the only contributors to the POPLINE data base. Other sources may be considered in the future, such as the *Population Index*, produced at Princeton University, and an expanded profile from MEDLINE.

Questions about POPLINE should be directed to the MEDLARS Management Section, Bibliographic Services Division, at the National Library of Medicine.

Deputy Head of Library Operations Retires

James W. Barry, Deputy Associate Director for Library Operations at NLM, has retired from Government service. A large gathering of his friends and colleagues wished him well at a party in NLM's Billings Auditorium on October 24th.

Mr. Barry had been Deputy Associate Director, LO, since July 1977. A nationally known medical librarian, Mr. Barry had a distinguished and varied career. He had worked at NLM from 1955 to 1963 before becoming head librarian at Rutgers University, a post he held until 1971. In 1968, taking a one-year leave of absence from Rutgers, he served as a visiting librarian and consultant at the Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand. His other positions before returning to NLM in 1977 include head librarian at the Medical Center of the University of Arizona and Director of the Learning Resource Center/Library of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

MEDLARS III Systems Development Team

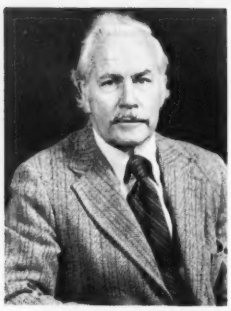
NLM Director **Martin M. Cummings**, M.D., has announced the formal establishment of a MEDLARS III systems development team to be directed by **John E. Anderson**, formerly Chief of the Applications Planning and Design Branch of the U.S. Customs Service in San Diego, California. Mr. Anderson will be assisted by **John Cox**, Deputy Director of NLM's Office of Computer and Communications Systems, who will serve as Deputy Director for MEDLARS III Systems Development.

MEDLARS III is the system being planned for NLM's future internal and external automation services (*News*, August 1979 and March 1980).

During the past year Dr. **Joseph Leiter**, Associate Director for Library Operations, headed a special task force which recently completed the functional specifications for the new system. He will continue to have overall program management responsibility for MEDLARS III development, and will head the Senior Advisory Group which will monitor MEDLARS III progress.

Mr. Anderson, Director of the MEDLARS III Systems Development, in his previous position with the Customs Service was involved in the analysis, design, implementation, and maintenance of a complex data processing system. In his new work at NLM, he will be assisted by a team of system analysts drawn from the Library staff and recruited from outside NLM. Current team members include Mr. **Robert Schultheisz**, Dr. **Richard Dick**, Dr. **Tamas Doszkocs**, and Mr. **David Kenton.**

Behavioral Scientist Joins NLM Staff



The Library has announced the appointment of **Henry W. Riecken**, Ph.D., as a Senior Program Adviser to the NLM Director. Dr. Riecken will be on leave from the University of Pennsylvania, where he is Professor of Behavioral Sciences in the School of Medicine. His primary area of responsibility will be the Library's programs in behavioral science, but the Library expects to draw upon his extensive experience in science administration as well.

After receiving his Ph.D. in psychology from Harvard University, Dr. Riecken was a Lecturer at Harvard and, later, a Professor at the University of Minnesota, engaged in research through the Laboratory for Research on Social Relations. From 1958 to 1964 he was in charge of the extramural grants program in the social sciences at the National Science Foundation, and he subsequently became Associate Director of the Foundation responsible for science education programs.

In 1966 he left NSF to become President of the Social Science Research Council, a private, nonprofit organization devoted to stimulating research and scholarly development of the various social sciences. In 1972, Dr. Riecken joined the medical faculty at Pennsylvania as the first professor of behavioral sciences.

Dr. Riecken has had extensive and varied experience in staff positions concerned with organizational management and development. He has also conducted research and training projects in this area, as well as in project and program evaluation. Best known for his work in small group psychology, Dr. Riecken has published more than 40 articles and several books.

He has been honored by election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and is a charter member of the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences. He was a member of the NIH Director's Advisory Committee from 1966 to 1970, a member and later Chairman of the NIH Committee on International Centers for Medical Research and Training, and has been a consultant to the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Education, and the General Accounting Office.

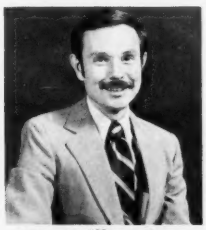
TSD Section Chiefs Named

Two important positions in the Technical Services Division (Library Operations) were filled in October. **Christa F.B. Hoffmann** will head the Cataloging Section and **William J. Willmering** will head the Serial Records Section.

Ms. Hoffmann, a native of Germany, was formerly Associate Professor of Library Science at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln Libraries. She had been associated with the University of Nebraska—Lincoln Libraries since 1973, beginning as a reference librarian and later heading the catalog department and serving as a member of the planning and research group. She received her A.M.L.S. from the University of Indiana. Her publications include *Getting Ready for AACR2, the Cataloger's Guide*, 1980.

Mr. Willmering was previously head of the Serials Department of Northwestern University Library in Evanston, Illinois, a post he held since 1973. He was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and received his M.S.L.S. from the University of Illinois in Urbana.

Ms. Hoffmann



Mr. Willmering

Biomedical Effects of Volcanoes

Biomedical Effects of Volcanoes (Specialized Bibliography Series No. 1980-1). 138 citations. July 1980.

The recent eruption of Mt. St. Helens in Washington State has brought forcibly to the attention of the health sciences community the potential adverse effects of volcanic action on man's health and his environment. To provide broader coverage of this topic than would have been included in a MEDLARS *Literature Search*, the Specialized Services Unit of the Library's Reference Section undertook a comprehensive manual and computerized search on this subject. The bibliography which was produced, the first in a new series of specialized bibliographies, is available without charge from NLM.

Biomedical Effects of Volcanoes covers periodical articles, monographs, reports, and miscellaneous material on health effects, air pollution, soil pollution, water pollution, and general volcano information. Sources for this information include the *Index-Catalogues of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office* and *Applied Science and Technology Index*, as well as such computerized data bases as TOXLINE, MEDLINE, APTIC, BIOSIS and SCISEARCH. The period covered is primarily the last decade, although selected pieces are included which date back to 1834.

To request a copy of *Biomedical Effects of Volcanoes* (SBS No. 1980-1), write to the Specialized Services Unit, Reference Section, National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland 20209. Please include a self-addressed mailing label with your request.

DeBakey Center Dedicated

Dr. **Michael E. DeBakey**, one of the key figures in the establishment of the National Library of Medicine in 1956 and a member of the first NLM Board of Regents, has recently been honored by the Baylor College of Medicine, where he is presently Chancellor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery. The Michael E. DeBakey Center for Biomedical Education and Research at Baylor in Houston, Texas, was dedicated on October 10th. The new nine-story, $15 million facility is named in recognition of the famous heart surgeon's achievements in medical science and education.

Dr. DeBakey played an important part in the development and passage of the legislation that created the National Library of Medicine, and earlier he had been actively involved in the affairs of the Army Medical Library. He was a member of the Library's Board of Regents from 1956-1960, serving as its Chairman from 1959-1960.

ILL Holiday Moratorium

NLM will suspend the loan of books from 12/3/80 to 1/2/81. The loan period for materials due between these dates is extended to no later than 1/5/81. Loans normally supplied in the form of photoduplicates will be sent as usual throughout the holiday period. Requests for loans of original material will be held until normal service is resumed.

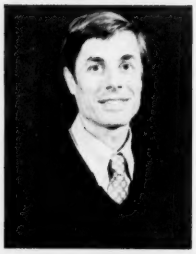
As announced in last month's *News*, **the top positions in the Library's National Medical Audiovisual Center have now been filled. Seated:** Linda W. Kudrick, **Chief, Materials Utilization Branch (***News***, July-August 1980), and NMAC Director,** James W. Woods, **Ph.D. Standing, from left:** Donald R. Buckner, **Ed.D., Chief, Materials Development Branch;** Warren F. Seibert, **Ph.D., Chief, Educational Research and Evaluation Branch; and** Thomas V. Telder, **Ed.D., Chief, Educational Training and Consultation Branch.**

NLM Associates, 1980/81

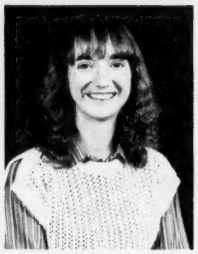
At a reception on October 15, the Library welcomed six new NLM Associates, all recent library school graduates who are beginning a year of training at NLM. The NLM Associate Program is designed as an intensive postgraduate educational experience, offering a unique opportunity for training to those interested in modern medical librarianship, automated handling of biomedical information, and advanced large-scale information storage and retrieval techniques.

The six Associates, with their undergraduate degrees in parentheses, are:

Peggy Beavers (home economics / clothing), A.M.L.S. University of Michigan. Ms. Beavers has worked as a Reference Librarian in NLM's Circulation and Control Section, where she served as Head, Processing Unit, since January 1979. Before joining the NLM staff she was a graduate assistant at the University of Michigan's Public Health and Physics/Astronomy libraries.



Ted Burch (zoology), M.L.S., Florida State University at Tallahassee. Mr. Burch has worked as a research associate at the Institute on Aging in Philadelphia.

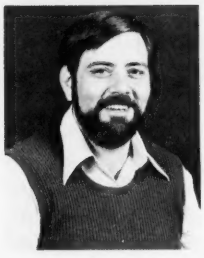


June Slach (computer science), A.M.L.S., University of Iowa. Before attending library school, Ms. Slach worked for five years as a programmer analyst for the Lipid Research Clinic at the University of Iowa. While working on her M.A., she was a graduate assistant for computer services at the School of Library Science.

Sarah Anne Goodman (biology), M.S. in microbiology, Ph.D. in biomedical science, M.Ln., Emory University. Anne comes to NLM from a faculty position in the Department of Microbiology, Emory University School of Medicine, where she taught and conducted research in immunology.

Karen L. Duerringer (chemistry / biology), M.S. in biochemistry, M.S.L.S., University of Illinois. Prior to coming to NLM, Ms. Duerringer attended the University of Illinois, where she carried out graduate research in the area of

bacterial chemotaxis. For the last eight months, she also coordinated the general chemistry laboratory program at the University.



James Kopp (English and history), M.A. in history, M.S.L.S., Catholic University of America. Mr. Kopp moves to the Associate Program from Quality Control, Index Section of NLM. As a doctoral student at George Washington University, his studies are focussing on the role of medicine in the social and cultural history of the United States.

Honored at the October meeting of the NLM Board of Regents (*News*, October 1980) were Mary E. Corning**, Assistant Director for International Programs, and** Joseph Leiter**, Ph.D., Associate Director for Library Operations. Miss Corning received the Regents' Award for Scholarly or Technical Achievement for her recent book on international biomedical research and communications, and Dr. Leiter was given the NLM Director's Award for his work on MEDLARS III.**

Professor Witold Rudowski **(right) of Warsaw, Poland, met recently with NLM staff, including NLM Director** Martin M. Cummings**, M.D. (not shown),** Jeanne L. Brand**, Ph.D., Chief, International Programs Branch, Extramural Programs, and Branch Program Officer,** Randall Worthington**. Professor Rudowski, M.D., F.A.C.S. (Hon.), is Director and Head of the Department of Surgery, Research Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion in Warsaw. His visit to NLM initiated a series of meetings with U.S. biomedical scientists engaged in splenectomy, a subject on which Prof. Rudowski is preparing a critical review under NLM's collaborative "Health Research Communications Program" in Poland.**

Personnel Notes

Gains

- Cheryl Corson, Secretary, Communications Engineering Branch, Lister Hill Center
- Beverly Jones, Training Specialist, Educational Training and Consultation Branch, National Medical Audiovisual Center
- Marjorie Kuenz, Research Education Specialist, Educational Research and Evaluation Branch, NMAC
- Jeanne Strasser, Secretary, Materials Development Branch, NMAC

Losses

- Marina Atchison, Library Technician, Reference Services Division, Library Operations
- Patrick Dore, Technical Information Specialist, Technical Services Division, Library Operations
- Darlene Futagaki, Technical Information Specialist, Biomedical Information Services, Specialized Information Services
- Laura Young, Library Technician, History of Medicine Division, Library Operations

Recent P.L. 480-Funded Publications

The Library's Special Foreign Currency Program, authorized under Public Law 480, provides limited support for the preparation of analytic critical reviews and biomedical monographs, secondary tools, scholarly research projects in the history of medicine, and support for the English-language translation and publication of selected foreign monographs in the health sciences. Administered by NLM's Extramural Programs, the P.L. 480 program sponsors projects in India, Egypt, Poland, Israel, Tunisia, and Pakistan.

Recent studies published under this program are listed below. (*Note:* these are not distributed by NLM, but are available only from the publishers.)

Heyneman, Donald, Hoogstraal, Harry and Djigounian, Alice. *Bibliography of Leishmania and Leishmanial Diseases*, Volume 1 and 2. Cairo, Egypt: United States Naval Medical Research Unit Number Three (NAMRU-3) June and August 1980, 303 pp. (Distributed by the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia).

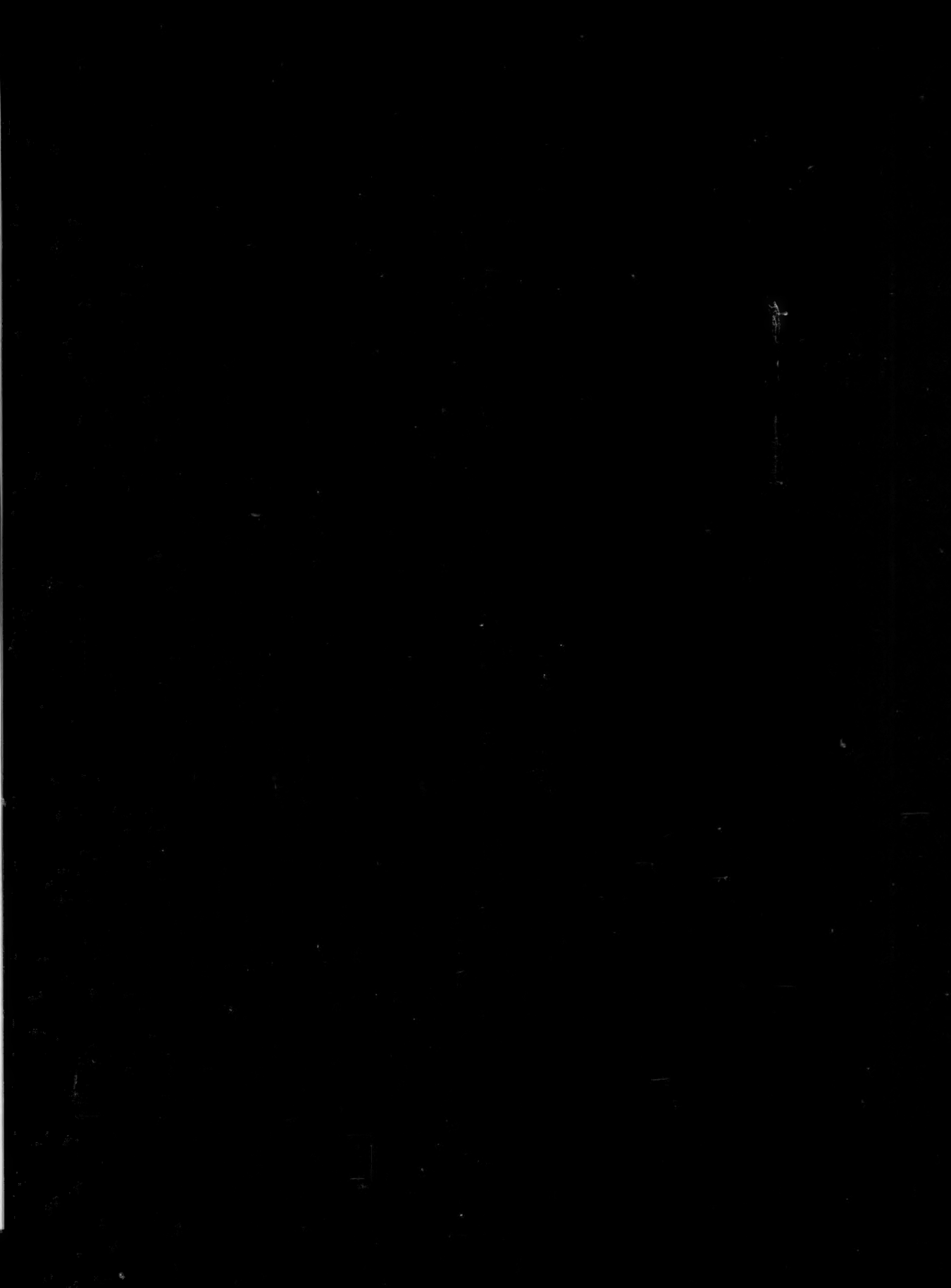
Ishaq, Hunayn Ibn. *Questions on Medicine for Scholars*; Translated into English, with a preface and historical note, by Paul Ghalioungui, M.D., from a critical edition by Galal M. Moussa, Ph.D., of the Ninth Century Arabic text, "Al Masa' il fi al-Tibb lil Muta 'allimin." Cairo, A.R.E.: Al-Ahram Center for Scientific Translations, 1980, 163 pp.

Juretic, Miro. *Herpetic Infections of Man*. Hanover, New Hampshire: University Press of New England, 1980, 202 pp. Printed by NOLIT Publishing House, Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Lisiewicz, Jerzy. *Human Neutrophils*. Bowie, Maryland: The Charles Press, Inc., 1980, 304 pp.

Naor, David. "Suppressor Cells: Permitters and Promoters of Malignancy?" *Advances in Cancer Research*, Vol. 29, pp. 45-125.

Selzer, Golda (ed.). "Geographic Pathology of the Gastrointestinal Tract," *Israel Journal of Medical Sciences*, Vol. 15, No. 4, April 1979.

Stein, Yechezkiel and Stein, Olga. "Interaction Between Serum Lipoproteins and Cellular Components of the Arterial Wall." In: *The Biochemistry of Atherosclerosis*, edited by Angelo M. Scanu. N.Y.: Marcel Dekker, Inc., 1979, pp. 313-344.

Sulkowski, Wieslaw J. *Industrial Noise Pollution and Hearing Impairment*. Warsaw, Poland: (PZWL) Polish Medical Publishers, 1980, 243 pp. Distributed by the National Technical Information Service.